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CANADIAN DELEGATION REPORT
31st ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

JULY 9 - 13, 1979

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SUBMITTED TO THE HONOURABLE JAMES MCGRATH
MINISTER OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS

SEPTEMBER, 1979

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Introduction

This report summarizes the results of and Canadian participation in the 31st Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) which took place in London, U.K., July 9-13, 1979. The meeting was preceded by a meeting of the IWC Scientific Committee which began its sessions in Cambridge, U.K., June 22 - July 3, and by working group meetings of the IWC Technical Committee which met in Cambridge on July 4-6. These working groups included a legal group who were asked to review the Schedule and make recommendations to remove ambiguities in the schedule without making substantive changes. Other working groups included a group on each of the following subjects: Humane killing, New Management Procedure, Observer schemes and sex ratio in minke whale catches. The Canadian delegation participated in the working groups on Humane killing, New Management Procedure and Observer Schemes. In addition, Canada participated in a special meeting of scientists which discussed the New Management Procedure.

Participation

Twenty-three member governments (including Chile, Republic of Korea, Peru, Seychelles, Spain and Sweden as new members) were represented, and six non-member governments and 34 international organizations participated as observers. Opening statements were limited to written submissions with the exception of new members and 3 observers. Seychelles and Sweden as well as three observer groups made opening statements. Written statements were received from New Zealand, Seychelles, Japan, Australia, Korea, U.S. and several observer groups.

The Canadian delegation to the 31st Annual meeting comprised:

M.C. Mercer, Commissioner and Head of Delegation
Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa

D. Goodman, International Directorate, Fisheries and Oceans
Ottawa

E.D. Mitchell, Research Scientist, Fisheries and Oceans,
Arctic Biological Station, St. Anne de Bellevue

K. Brynaert, Minister's Advisory Committee on Whales and
Whaling, Ottawa

R. Howard, Canadian High Commission, London

Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee was (as was the case last year) unable to complete their report by the scheduled closing date and continued to work throughout the week of the Commission meeting. The report was produced in piecemeal fashion in order to allow the Technical Committee to proceed with the result that the Technical Committee was still meeting on the final day of the Commission meeting, and the final Plenary session did not conclude until 0500 hrs on July 14. The report of the Scientific Committee (which will be published in the 30th Report of IWC) along with documents submitted as proposed schedule amendments and resolutions by member governments were the primary basis for Commission actions reported below.

A total of 66 scientists from 17 member governments and 3 intergovernmental organizations participated. In addition, 6 international organizations participated as observers.

Canadians participating in the Committee and sub-committee sessions included E.D. Mitchell and D.E. Sergeant from the DFO Arctic Biological Station; W.G. Doubleday, DFO, Ottawa and J.B. Kemper, DINA, Ottawa, and R.A. Davis, LGL, LR.

K.R. Allen and J.L. Bannister of Australia served as Chairman and Vice-Chairman; J.L. Bannister and M. Tillman were elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 1979/80.

Technical Committee and Plenary Sessions

The provisional agenda as adopted in the opening Plenary session and the voting record for votes taken in Technical Committee and Plenary sessions are appended as Annexes I and II respectively. Proposed schedule amendments require a simple majority in Technical Committee and a three quarter majority in Plenary session to pass.

Agenda Item 6

World wide ban on whaling

Australia proposed (amended by Denmark) that:

"The Technical Committee be directed to consider and report to the 32nd annual meeting of the Commission on:

1. Procedures that would be necessary, bearing in mind the interests of aboriginal whaling, to institute a world-wide ban on whaling;
2. The period over which such a ban on whaling could be instituted; and
3. Should any hardships, such as for subsistence whaling, be likely to result from a world-wide ban on whaling, steps that would be necessary to avoid undue hardship."

This was passed in Technical Committee by a vote of 13/3/7 (See Voting record vote 1) Canada voted YES.

The second part of the proposal which passed Technical Committee without a vote proposed that: "The Technical Committee be directed to undertake a review of and report to the 32nd annual meeting of the Commission on economic aspects of current commercial whaling. In particular, as far as is possible for each whaling nation, the Technical

Committee should report on recent trends in aspects of the industry important to the Commission's assessment of the economic basis of the industry, including:

1. Levels of employment provided directly by the whaling industry, together with estimates of indirect employment thus provided;
2. Any trends in levels of direct and indirect employment during the period 1969-76 inclusive;
3. Whaling equipment and levels of capital investment in pelagic and land-based commercial whaling operations in that period;
4. Trends and levels of major products of the industry and the levels of financial returns from pelagic and land-based commercial whaling operations in that period;
5. Trends in major components of costs incurred by pelagic and land-based whaling operations, including fuel costs, maintenance and replacement;
6. The nature and levels of direct and indirect government subsidies to commercial whaling operations;
7. Any trends in the levels of government subsidies during the period 1969-79 inclusive; and
8. Any instances in which a ban on commercial whaling would cause undue hardship.

Both parts of the above proposal were adopted without vote in Plenary session with Japan recording its opposition to the first part thereof. It was agreed that a Technical Committee working group will convene one week before the next annual meeting of the Commission to give further consideration to above. The secretary is to circulate pertinent data and other information on the subject from Commissioners.

Moratorium

The U.S. proposal for schedule amendments that would have resulted in a moratorium on all commercial whaling received the required simple majority in Technical Committee (11/6/6 Canada abstained) (See voting record - Vote 2) with no clear recommendation from the Scientific Committee.

In Plenary, Panama proposed, seconded by Sweden, that the U.S. proposal be split into two parts; a moratorium on the use of factory ships for whaling, and a moratorium on whaling by coastal stations or catcher vessels attached thereto (excluding aboriginal whaling). The proposed moratorium on the use of factory ships was then further amended by Denmark, seconded by Chile to exclude minke whales. Again, with no clear Scientific Committee advice, the Commission passed the amended proposal to insert in the schedule the following paragraph.

8(d) Notwithstanding the other provisions of paragraph 8:
(i) there shall be a moratorium on the taking, killing or treating of whales, excluding minke whales, by factory ships or whale catchers attached to factory ships.

The vote was 18/2/3 (Canada voted YES) (See voting record - Vote 3).

The second part of the proposed schedule amendment - to insert paragraph 8(d)(ii) "there shall be a moratorium on the taking, killing, or treating of whales by land stations or whale catchers attached to land stations except as provided for in paragraph 11, "did not receive the required three quarter majority and therefore failed. Vote 11/5/7 (Canada abstained)(See voting record - Vote 4).

The statement by the Canadian Commissioner (M.C. Mercer) which was made prior to the amendments dividing the U.S. proposed moratorium on all commercial whaling is attached as Annex III.

Japan expressed a sense of resentment and displeasure at "the discriminatory measure which was passed in a most unusual way". The U.S.S.R. also stated that the moratorium on the use of factory ships was discriminatory.

Agenda Item 7 - Review of Present Management Procedure

The Technical Committee considered the recommendations from the Scientific Committee and the Technical Committee working group concerning the New Management Procedure. The Technical Committee agreed with the recommendations of the working group as follows:

- (i) the Special Scientific Working Group on Management Procedures should meet for one week well in advance of the next Annual Commission meeting to finalize their report; and
- (ii) that the group should be augmented with additional experts on whale biology and population dynamics at the discretion of the Chairman of the Special Scientific Working Group.

The Technical Committee also agreed to recommend that the Special Scientific Working Group consider several schedule amendments as proposed by the U.S., and added a sense of urgency to the matter.

The above recommendations of the Technical Committee were approved in Plenary without further discussion.

Agenda Item 8 - Consideration of the Implications for Whales of Management Regimes for other Marine Resources

The Technical Committee and Plenary agreed to terms of reference for a Working Group to consider how the IWC might best promote cooperation with the proposed Antarctic Treaty. Chile and Argentina reserved their positions on this matter.

Agenda Item 9 - Whale Sanctuaries

The Seychelles proposal for a sanctuary in the Indian Ocean, seconded by the U.S., U.K., Netherlands and Sweden, amended to set the southern boundary at 55 degrees south (to take account of the minke whale fishery) and to apply for a period of 10 years unless the Commission decided otherwise, received the required 50% majority in Technical Committee (Vote 14/4/4 Canada abstained) (See voting record - Vote 5) again without clear advice from the Scientific Committee.

The Indian Ocean sanctuary proposal was slightly amended in Plenary session to include a provision for a general review after 5 years and passed with a vote of 16/3/3 - Canada abstained - (See voting record - vote 6).

A resolution proposed by Denmark, in relation to the establishment of a whale sanctuary in the Indian Ocean was seconded by Japan and South Africa and unanimously accepted in Plenary session. The resolution is as follows:

Whereas a Whale Sanctuary has been established for 10 years in the Indian Ocean North of 55° S, the Commission requests

(a) that the Scientific Committee investigates

- (1) the kind of research and the level of research efforts which will be necessary to obtain adequate information on the abundance of whales, reproductive behaviour and related scientific problems relevant to assessment of stocks which the sanctuary will give total or partial protection from whaling,
- (2) whether it will be necessary to initiate additional research simultaneously in areas where exploitation of whales continues, in order to make comparison possible between stocks under the two different regimes;

- (b) that the Scientific Committee report on its progress in developing research proposals concerning the above mentioned problems at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Commission.

Agenda Item 10 - Management of Sperm Whale Stocks

North Atlantic

The Technical Committee adopted without vote the Scientific Committee recommendation that this stock be regarded as unclassified with a provisional catch limit of 273 whales, for the year 1980 only, based on the average of the last ten years (1969-1978) catches by Icelandic and Spanish land stations.

In Plenary session a proposal by Panama for a zero quota for this stock failed (See voting record - Vote 7) 6/9/8. Canada voted NO because there was a clear Scientific Committee recommendation for a quota of 273. The vote for a quota of 273 then passed in Plenary session 10/2/11. Canada voted YES (See voting record - Vote 8).

North Pacific Stock (Western Division)

The Scientific Committee were unable to recommend any figures for a quota. The Technical Committee passed without a vote the proposal by Japan, seconded by Norway that the quota for 1980 be reduced to 1350 (all male) to include a by-catch allowance for females of 11.5%. The Japanese Commissioner stated that this represented a reduction in the quota of approximately 2/3 and that it would mean that their coastal land station operations would not therefore be expanded to respond to reduced catches from this stock as a result of the moratorium on pelagic whaling.

In Plenary session discussion of this stock the Netherlands proposed and then withdrew a quota proposal of 1100 with no by-catch). A proposal by Seychelles to amend the quota to 1100 with an 11.5% by-catch then failed with a vote of 8/7/8. Canada abstained. (See voting record - Vote 9). The vote for a quota of 1350 with a by-catch of 11.5% passed 12/4/7. Canada voted YES (See voting record - Vote 10).

Division 9 - Southern Hemisphere

The Scientific Committee recommended that males be classed as a Protection Stock but did not make recommendations concerning the females. In Technical Committee the U.K. proposed, seconded by the Netherlands that the quota for both sexes be set at zero. Norway then proposed an amendment, seconded by Denmark, that the catch be the lesser of 550 for 1980, 300 for 1981, and 0 for 1982 or 50% of the 1978 catch for 1980, 25% of the 1978 catch for 1981 and 0 in 1982. Canada voted NO. (See voting record - Vote 11). These quotas were approved in Plenary session without a vote. The U.S. stated that their support for the quotas was based on the assumption that both Chile and Peru are phasing out their whaling operations.

Division 1 - Southern Hemisphere

The Scientific Committee was unable to make a recommendation concerning this stock. In Technical Committee, the proposal by Chile for a quota of 30 from this stock passed with a vote of 11/7/5. Canada abstained. (See voting record - Vote 12). It was agreed to recommend to the Plenary that this stock be provisionally classified as a Sustained Management Stock. This quota was passed without a vote in plenary session.

Remainder of Sperm Whale Stocks

Technical Committee and Plenary session, without a vote, agreed to a U.S.A. proposal that the quota for these stocks (including the eastern North Pacific stock) be set at zero and that they remain unclassified.

Agenda Item 11 - Three year moratorium on the Commercial taking of Sperm Whales

The Seychelles proposal to amend the schedule by inserting where appropriate "quotas for sperm whales of both sexes shall be set at zero in all divisions of the southern hemisphere (including the Indian Ocean north

of the Equator) for the seasons 1979/80, 1980/81 and 1981/82 and for the northern hemisphere (Atlantic and Pacific) for 1980, 1981 and 1982 "passed Technical Committee 11/7/5. Canada abstained since there were no clear recommendations from the Scientific Committee. (See voting record - Vote 13).

This proposal did not however receive the required three quarters majority in Plenary and therefore failed. Vote 11/6/5 Canada abstained. (See voting record - Vote 14).

Agenda Item 12 - Whale stocks and catch limits, 1979/80 Southern Hemisphere Pelagic Season and 1980 pelagic and coastal season elsewhere

Agenda Item 12

Southern Hemisphere

1. Minke Whales

The Scientific Committee noted that this stock has been increasing in response to reduction of other whale stocks.

Technical Committee agreed without vote that catch limits be set for the sexes combined and a 10% allowance between Areas with a total catch not to exceed 8102.

In Plenary session discussion of the item, France seconded by Netherlands proposed a total quota of 6319 with no 10% allowance between areas. This proposal failed 4/10/9. Canada voted NO because of the clear scientific recommendation for higher quota. (See voting record - Vote 15). A vote on a quota of 8102 as recommended by the Technical Committee passed with a vote of 15/3/5. Canada voted YES. (See voting record - Vote 16).

2. Area I, Bryde's Whales (Peru)

After consideration of Scientific Committee recommendations, Technical Committee adopted by a vote of 12/6/5 a quota of 153 for this stock. Canada voted YES. (See voting record - VOTE 17). In Plenary session the recommendation of the Technical Committee was amended by Peru, seconded by Chile to a quota of 264 and passed with a vote of 9/3/11. Canada abstained. (See Voting record - Vote 18).

3. Areas II, III, IV, V and VI Bryde's Whales

Both Technical Committee and Plenary session approved without vote a proposal to classify these stocks as Initial Management Stocks with a zero catch limit.

4. Fin Whales Areas II, III, IV and V

Technical Committee and Plenary agreed without vote with the Scientific Committee recommendations that these stocks should remain protected.

5. Fin Whales - Area VI

The Commission agreed that this stock should be classified as a Protection Stock with a zero quota.

6. Sei Whales

Technical Committee and Plenary sessions accepted without vote the Scientific Committee Recommendation that all Southern Hemisphere stocks of Sei Whales remain classified as Protection Stocks.

North Pacific

1. Minke Whales

(a) Okhotsk Sea - West Pacific Stock

The Technical Committee and Plenary sessions approved without vote the Scientific Committee recommendation for a 5-year block quota of 1678 with a limit of 421 in any one year.

(b) Sea of Japan Stock

Technical Committee and Plenary sessions approved without vote the Scientific Committee recommendation for a 5-year block quota of 3634 with a limit of 940 in any one year.

(c) North Pacific Pelagic Stock

Technical Committee and Plenary sessions approved without vote the Scientific Committee recommendation that this stock be classified as an Initial Management Stock with a zero catch limit.

2. Bryde's Whales

Technical Committee and Plenary sessions agreed with Scientific Committee recommendations on all three stocks of North Pacific stocks of Bryde's Whales. Quotas are to be as follows:

Western North Pacific	-	460
Eastern North Pacific	-	0
East China Sea	-	19

3. Gray Whales

The Technical Committee and Plenary Session agreed with the Scientific Committee recommendations that the quota for the

Eastern stock be set at 179 and that the Western Stock should remain as a Protection Stock with a zero catch limit. The quota of 179 for the Eastern Stock is available to be taken by aborigines or a Contracting Government on behalf of aborigines.

4. Fin Whales

The Commission endorsed the Scientific Committee recommendation that Fin Whales in the North Pacific remain a Protection Stock with a zero catch limit.

5. Sei Whales

The Commission endorsed the Scientific Committee recommendation that Sei Whales in the North Pacific remain a Protection Stock with a zero catch limit.

North Atlantic

1. Minke Whales

(a) Canadian East Coast Stock

Technical Committee and Plenary approved the Scientific Committee recommendation of a quota of 48 for this stock.

(b) West Greenland Stock

Denmark, seconded by Norway proposed a 6-year block quota of 2,200 with a maximum in any year of 444. This proposal was then amended by Netherlands, seconded by New Zealand for a fixed catch limit of 370 and passed Technical Committee by a vote of 12/5/6. Canada abstained on this vote because of the lack of a clear recommendation from the Scientific Committee. (See voting record - Vote 19.)

In Plenary session, a proposal for a quota of 394 failed to receive the required three quarters majority (see voting record - Vote 20) and a quota of 385 was agreed to without a vote.

- (c) East-Greenland-Iceland-Jan Mayen Stock and
- (d) Svalbard-Norway-British Isles Stock

Technical Committee and Plenary sessions approved the Scientific Committee recommendations for quotas of 320 and 1790 respectively for these stocks.

2. Fin Whales

Technical Committee and Plenary agreed without vote to the following quotas as recommended by the Scientific Committee:

- (a) Nova Scotia Stock - remain classified as a Protection Stock
- (b) Newfoundland-Labrador Stock - 90
- (c) West Greenland Stock - 6
- (d) East Greenland-Iceland Stock - six year block quota 1524, max 304 in any one year.
- (e) North Norway Stock - 61
- (f) West Norway-Faroe Islands - remain classified as a Protection Stock.
- (g) Spain-Portugal-British Isles Stock

In Technical Committee discussion of this item, Spain noted the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that a quota of 143 be provisionally set for one year and proposed in light of last years catch of 402 a quota of 226. This proposal did not receive a second and was amended by Denmark, seconded by Spain to 200. This quota was then amended to 0 by Panama. Votes on both of these amendments failed. (See voting record - Votes 21 and 22.) Canada voted NO on both votes because of the Scientific Committee recommendation for a quota of 143. Iceland then proposed a quota of 143 which passed Technical Committee

(12/1/10) (Canada votes YES - See voting record - Vote 23) and was approved by Plenary without vote.

3. Sei Whales

(a) Nova Scotia Stock

Technical Committee and Plenary accepted the Scientific Committee recommendation that this stock remain classified as a Protection Stock.

(b) Iceland-Denmark Strait Stock

In Technical Committee consideration of this stock, Iceland, seconded by Norway, proposed a 6-year block quota of 504 with a maximum catch of 100 in any year. The U.S.A. seconded by France, proposed an amendment to 59 for 1 year. This amendment was defeated (5/7/11 - Canada abstained - see voting record - Vote 24) and the original proposal approved by a vote of 9/6/8. Canada voted NO. (See voting record - Vote 25.) The proposed 6 year block quota of 504 with a maximum catch of 100 in any year was approved in Plenary session without vote.

4. Bryde's Whales

Technical Committee and Plenary approved the Scientific Committee recommendations that this stock be classified as an Initial Management Stock with a zero catch limit.

5. Bottlenose Whales

Technical Committee and Plenary approved, without vote, the Scientific Committee recommendation that this stock continue to be provisionally listed as a Protection Stock with a zero quota.

Protected Stocks

The Technical Committee and Plenary sessions endorsed the following Scientific Committee recommendations concerning the presently classified Protection Stocks:

- Right Whales - Protection Stock World Wide
- Bowhead Whales - Protection Stock - World Wide
- Blue Whales - Protection Stock - World Wide
- Humpback Whales - Protection Stock - World Wide

Agenda Item 14 - Review of Subsistence/Aboriginal Whaling - Alaska
Bowhead Stock

Technical Committee considered the report of the Working Group which met on April 3-5, 1979 and the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that the only safe course for the Bering Sea Bowhead Stock was a zero take. The Chairman of the Scientific Committee noted that this was the fourth year that his committee had made the same recommendation and noted that this year the committee added the comment that the population will decline even if there are no catches.

Denmark then proposed, seconded by the U.S., that the 1980 take not exceed 20 landed or 27 struck. This proposal was then amended by Australia, seconded by Netherlands, New Zealand, to read "that for the year 1980, the quota shall be zero." Denmark then noted the need to take into account "cultural reasons" and then further amended the proposal such that the quota would be 18 landed or 27 struck. This amendment was seconded by Japan and carried in Technical Committee with a vote of 8/4/9. Canada abstained on this vote, desiring a lower quota. (See voting record - Vote 25.)

In Plenary session, the recommended quota of 18/27 was seconded by Denmark, then amended to zero by Australia (seconded by New Zealand). At this point, the U.S. Commissioner stated that "a vote for zero quota is a vote against the aboriginals and against the bowhead". He suggested that if a zero quota were passed, more bowheads would be taken and that the struck and lost ratio would increase.

SUMMARY - CATCH LIMITS OF WHALE STOCKS

<u>Southern Hemisphere</u>	<u>1977/78</u>	<u>1978/79</u>	<u>1979/80</u>
Sei	771	0	0
Minke	5690	6221	8102
Bryde's (Area I)			264
Sperm - Male	4538	4222	550 (Div 9), 30 (Div 1)
- Female	1370	1214	
<u>North Pacific</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Minke (Western)	400	400	5 yr block 1678 max 1 yr. 421
(Sea of Japan)	-	-	5 yr block 3634 max 1 yr. 940
Bryde's (Western)	524	454	460
(East China Sea)	-	-	19
Gray (Eastern)	-	178	179
Sperm (Western)	-	2698	1350
(Eastern)	-	1102	0
<u>North Atlantic</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Sei (Iceland Denmark)	84	84	6 yr block 504 max 1 yr. 100
Minke (West Greenland)	397	394	385
(Can-East)	48	48	48
(East Greenland-Iceland)	320	320	320
(Norway-British Isles)	1790	1790	1790
Fin (Newfoundland- Labrador)	90	90	90
(Iceland-Denmark)	304	304	6 yr block 1524 max 1 yr. 304
(North Norway)	61	61	61
(West Greenland)	4	15	6
(Spain, Portugal, British Isles)	-	-	143
Sperm	685	685	273

The proposed quota of zero failed 6/8/9. Canada abstained on this vote, recognizing that some catch was justified for cultural reasons. (See voting record - Vote 27.) The Commissioner from Seychelles then attempted to amend the quota of 18 landed or 27 struck, as proposed by the Technical Committee to 18 landed or 24 struck, but did not receive a seconder. The proposed quota of 18/27 was then voted on and was not carried. 13/5/5 (See voting record - Vote 28) Canada abstained on this vote, desiring a lower quota.

Australia, seconded by New Zealand, then proposed a quota of 12 landed or 18 struck. The U.S. Commissioner noted at this point that a quota of 12/18 was unfair and stated that "my Government will not tell Eskimos that it is a fair quota and it will likely not be adhered to". This proposal was then amended by the U.S. to a quota of 18/26 and was carried by a vote of 12/4/7. Again, Canada abstained, desiring a lower quota. (See voting record - Vote 29.)

A resolution proposed by the U.S., concerning further research on the Alaska stock of bowhead whales, including amendments proposed by Canada was then passed by Plenary without vote.

Greenland Humpback

The Scientific Committee recommended that the exemption to allow Greenland to take 10 humpback whales be removed from the schedule. During Technical Committee discussion of this item, the Commissioner from Denmark informed the Committee that the catch had been stopped in June of this year and gave his assurance that the quota would not be exceeded this year. The Netherlands, seconded by New Zealand then proposed that the exemption in the schedule allowing the taking of 10 humpbacks by Greenland be removed. This proposal passed Technical Committee with a vote of 6/3/12. Canada voted YES in accordance with Scientific Committee advice. (See voting record - Vote 30).

The Canadian Commissioner, at this point, noted that the Scientific Committee had recognized the increase in net entanglements of humpback whales. He expressed the concern of the Canadian government on

this matter and briefly outlined the research program presently being undertaken by Canada to try to resolve this problem.

In Plenary session, the Technical Committee recommendation that the exemption in the schedule allowing a catch of 10 humpback whales by Greenland be deleted was seconded by the Netherlands. At this point, the Commissioner from Denmark noted that this issue was similar to the Alaska bowhead issue and that he could not return home with a zero quota. In response to a question from the Australian Commissioner, the Danish Commissioner assured the Commission that these whales are used exclusively for local consumption. The vote on this proposal failed 6/7/9 which means that the exemption allowing a take of 10 humpbacks by Greenland will remain in the schedule. Canada abstained on this vote recognizing the cultural needs of the Greenlanders for some catch but not necessarily supporting the quota of 10. (See voting record - Vote 31.)

Agenda Item 15 - Small Cetaceans - White Whale (Beluga) and Narwhal

Technical Committee discussion of this item centered around two of the recommendations of the Scientific Committee namely that:

1. The white whale and narwhal taken in aboriginal/subsistence fisheries should be defined as "whales" and listed in Paragraph 1 of the Schedule so that appropriate management procedures may be discussed and implemented.

and

2. The Cumberland Sound, Baffin Island population of white whales should be classified as a Protection Stock.

The Canadian Commissioner advised the Technical Committee that it was Canada's position that small cetaceans are not within the jurisdiction of the Commission and that the species noted were a matter of coastal state competence. He further noted that with respect to beluga catches in Pangnirtung, Canada had taken action to reduce the 1978 catch

half that in 1977 and that the catch was expected to be further reduced this year. The Canadian Commissioner further advised that Canada has assigned research and enforcement personnel to the problem and that regulations are presently being reviewed for amendment. He reiterated the Canadian position that these small cetaceans are not within the ambit of the 1946 Convention (and likewise should not be in any renegotiated Convention), but that the Scientific Committee should continue to review the status of stocks and provide advice which should be passed by the Commission to the appropriate management authority - in this case, the Government of Canada.

Brazil, Denmark, Chile and the U.S.S.R. supported the Canadian position. The U.K. stated that the jurisdiction of the Commission in this area has never been clearly defined and proposed that this item be deferred to the agenda for the next year with the understanding that contracting governments seek legal and policy advice on the matter. The U.S. stated its position that these species are within the jurisdiction of the Commission but agreed with the U.K. proposal to postpone consideration of this item until next year.

The Canadian Commissioner stated that the recommendations of the Scientific Committee would be brought to the attention of his government. The proposal to postpone consideration of this item to next year passed both Technical Committee and Plenary without vote.

Agenda Item 17 - Consideration of the Ethics of Killing Cetaceans

The Technical Committee considered the Scientific Committee recommendation that a meeting concerning the ethics of killing whales could usefully be held prior to the next annual meeting of the Commission, along with the secretary's comments that considerable funding from outside organizations was available for this purpose. The Technical Committee and Plenary sessions agreed that a meeting should be held prior to the next annual meeting.

Agenda Item 18 - Humane Killing

Professor Ovington, Chairman of the Technical Working Group on Humane Killing presented the recommendations on this group (attached as Annex IV). Discussion within the Working Group centered largely around the work conducted by Prof. Rowse (Canada) at the whaling station in Iceland. The Technical Committee accepted the Working Group recommendations noting that the recommendation prohibiting the use of cold grenades for killing all whale species larger than minke whales would require a specific proposal for a schedule amendment with appropriate notice. Plenary session similarly endorsed these recommendations.

Agenda Item 19 - Prior Review of Scientific Permits

In accordance with the legal opinion which indicated that such is permissible within the Convention, the Technical Committee and Plenary passed a proposal for a schedule amendment requiring prior review of scientific permits. Vote in Plenary was 13/4/6. Canada voted YES. (See voting record - Vote 32.)

Agenda Item 20 - Prohibition of Whaling by Operations failing to Supply all Data Stipulated

In accordance with legal opinion which indicated that such prohibitions could be contained within defined limits of the convention, the Technical Committee passed a proposed schedule amendment prohibiting the use of a factory ship, whale catcher, or land station for the purpose of taking, killing, or treating any whale, for a period of not less than one year, unless substantially all data stipulated was submitted. (Vote 14/5/3 - Canada Votes YES - See voting record - Vote 33.) The proposed schedule amendment did not however receive the required three quarters majority in Plenary Session. (See voting record - Vote 34.) Canada voted YES.

Agenda Item 21 - Revision of the Schedule by Lawyers

Technical Committee received the report of the legal working group which proposed revisions to the schedule designed to clarify ambiguities, simplify sentence structure and provide some further definitions. These did not include any substantive changes. The Technical Committee accepted the suggestion by Japan that comments from Contracting Governments be invited during the coming year so that proposals may be debated at the next Annual Meeting. This procedure was also accepted in Plenary session.

Agenda Item 23 - New International Observer Scheme

The Chairman of the Technical Committee Working Group which had met in Cambridge July 5-6, 1979 presented the recommendations to the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee and Plenary sessions agreed to these recommendations which centered around an expansion of the present observer scheme based on bilateral agreements. Brazil, Chile and Peru indicated their willingness to participate in the observer schemes. The recommendations are attached as Annex V.

Agenda Item 26 - Finance and Administration

Plenary Session approved without vote the middle budget of three options presented by the Finance and Administration Committee, noting that this proposal could be further reduced because two special meetings were no longer necessary. The secretary noted that further substantial reductions could be achieved if the Commission was willing to meet outside London. It was agreed that the secretary will investigate alternate locations and advise Contracting Governments.

The Finance and Administration Committee recommendation to support the establishment of a computer facility was amended by Argentina, seconded by Brazil to delay such consideration for 1 year. This amendment failed by a vote of 7/13/2. Canada voted NO to the proposed delay favoring the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that the need was urgent. (See voting record - Vote 35.)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

31ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION
9-13 JULY 1979, AT THE CAFE ROYAL, LONDON

1. ADDRESS OF WELCOME
2. OPENING STATEMENTS
 - 2.1 Member Governments
 - 2.2 Observers from other Countries
 - 2.3 Accredited International Organisations
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETING
5. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES
(*Rules of Procedure, Rule J.1.*)
6. WORLD-WIDE BAN ON WHALING
 - 6.1 Moratorium on all Commercial Whaling
(Proposal may be implemented by amendment of the Schedule, including paragraphs 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,13,14,15,17,18, or the addition of new paragraphs)
7. REVIEW OF PRESENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE
(*Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 10*)
 - 7.1 Report of Special Group of Scientists
 - 7.2 Report of Technical Committee
 - 7.3 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 7.3.1 Southern minke whales
(*Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 11(i)(c)*)
 - 7.3.2 Icelandic sei whales
(*Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 11(iii)(b)*)
 - 7.4 Action arising
(Changes in criteria, stock categories, or procedures will require amendment of the Schedule, including paragraph 8 or the addition of new paragraphs)

8. CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS FOR WHALES OF MANAGEMENT REGIMES FOR OTHER MARINE RESOURCES

- 8.1 Report by Secretary/UK on means of promoting co-operation with the proposed Antarctic Treaty
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 25)
- 8.2 Action arising

9. WHALE SANCTUARIES

- 9.1 Declaration of a Whale Sanctuary in the Indian Ocean
(Such declaration will require amendment of Section III of the Schedule, and possibly addition of new paragraphs)

10. MANAGEMENT OF SPERM WHALE STOCKS

(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 19(3))

10.1 Report of Scientific Committee

- 10.1.1 Effect of by-catch of female sperm whales on the stocks and their dynamics
- 10.1.2 Consideration of alternatives such as size limits
- 10.1.3 Biological consequences of raising the size limit
- 10.1.4 Allowance between Divisions

(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 11(i)(a))

10.2 Action arising

(Changes in the management strategy, size limits and quota determination will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 8,14,15,17 or the addition of new paragraphs)

11. DECLARATION OF A THREE YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE COMMERCIAL TAKING-OF SPERM WHALES

12. WHALE STOCKS AND CATCH LIMITS, 1979/80 SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE PELAGIC SEASON AND 1980 PELAGIC AND COASTAL SEASONS ELSEWHERE

(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraphs 11 and 12 and Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraphs 8 and 9)

12.1 Report of Scientific Committee

12.2 Action arising

(Changes of catch limits, of effort limitations, of areas or sub-areas, or of size limits will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 2,3,7,9,10,11,13,14,15,17)

- 12.2.1 Southern Hemisphere
- 12.2.2 North Pacific
- 12.2.3 North Atlantic
- 12.2.4 Arctic
- 12.2.5 Adjustment to quotas to reflect take by non-members

13. IMPLICATIONS OF ANY TAKE OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE BRYDE'S WHALES FOR COMMISSION'S MANAGEMENT POLICIES
14. REVIEW OF SUBSISTENCE/ABORIGINAL WHALING
 - 14.1 Development of management regimes including definition of terms
(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraph 12(i) and Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 13(i))
(Any definition of terms will require amendment of the Schedule, paragraph 1)
 - 14.1.1 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 14.1.2 Report of Technical Committee
 - 14.2 Action arising
(The introduction of management regimes for aboriginal/subsistence whaling will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraph 11 or the possible addition of new paragraphs)
 - 14.2.1 Bering Sea stock of bowhead whales
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 12(i))
 - 14.2.2 Review of exemption allowing capture of 10 humpback whales in Greenland waters, including Report by Denmark
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 12(ii))
 - 14.2.3 Gray whales including Reports by Mexico, USSR and USA on Action Taken
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 12(iii))
 - 14.3 Workshop on Arctic Whaling and Subsistence Whaling
(Letter to Commissioners from Chairman of Technical Committee, dated 5 October 1978)
15. STOCKS OF SMALL CETACEANS
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 13)
 - 15.1 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 15.2 Action arising
(The classification of stocks and the regulation of catches will require amendment of the Schedule including paragraphs 1, 21, 22 and 23, or additional paragraphs)
16. INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF CETACEAN RESEARCH
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 14)
 - 16.1 Report by Scientific Committee
 - 16.2 Action arising

17. CONSIDERATION OF THE ETHICS OF KILLING CETACEANS
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 16)
 - 17.1 Report by Secretary
 - 17.2 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 17.3 Action arising

18. HUMANE KILLING
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 17)
 - 18.1 Value of data presently being collected in consistence with the IWC Resolution of 1978
 - 18.1.1 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 18.2 Review of IWC sponsored research programme
 - 18.2.1 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 18.2.2 Report of Technical Committee
 - 18.3 Action arising
 - 18.3.1 Programme of further research
(Direct active involvement with research will require a specific allocation of monies to the International Whaling Commission Research Fund)

19. PRIOR REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC PERMITS - POSSIBLE SCHEDULE AMENDMENT
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 15)
 - 19.1 Report by Secretary on legal advice obtained
(Paper IWC/31/9)
 - 19.2 Action arising
(Any amendment will require insertion of new material in the Schedule in Section III and possibly Sections IV, V and VI)

20. PROHIBITION OF WHALING BY OPERATIONS FAILING TO SUPPLY ALL DATA STIPULATED
(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 10)
 - 20.1 Report by Secretary on legal advice obtained
(Paper IWC/31/9)
 - 20.2 Action arising
(Prohibition of whaling will require amendment of the Schedule or the possible addition of new paragraphs in Section VI)

21. REVISION OF THE SCHEDULE BY LAWYERS

(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraphs 21(i) and 18(i) and Tokyo Special Meeting, paragraph 13(3))

21.1 Report of Technical Committee

21.1.1 Action arising

(Any changes will require amendment of the Schedule)

22. INFRACTIONS AND REPORTS FROM INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS, 1978 AND 1978/79 SEASONS

(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 18)

22.1 Report of Technical Committee

22.1.1 Infractions reports from Contracting Governments (Paper IWC/31/10)

22.1.2 Reports from Observers (Paper IWC/31/11)

22.2 Action arising

23. NEW INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME

(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 13(2))

23.1 Report of Technical Committee

23.1.1 Review of existing schemes

23.1.2 New schemes for minke whaling in the North Atlantic and North Pacific

23.1.3 New schemes for aboriginal/subsistence whaling

23.1.4 Involvement of all member nations

23.1.5 Inclusion of new whaling member nations

23.1.6 Proposals for comprehensive new Observer Scheme

23.1.7 Mandate for Observers

23.2 Action arising

(Changes to system of nomination and remuneration of Observers and the introduction of new arrangements may require amendment of the Schedule, paragraph 20, or additional paragraphs)

24. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

(to be circulated as Paper IWC/31/4)

25. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

(to be circulated as Paper IWC/31/5)

26. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraph 19 and Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 14)

- 26.1 Review of Provisional Financial Statement, 1978/79
(Paper IWC/31/12)
- 26.2 Consideration of Estimated Budget and Contributions from Member Governments 1979/80 (Paper IWC/31/12)
- 26.3 Consideration of provision of full-time computer capability
 - 26.3.1 Report on preliminary design study
 - 26.3.2 Report of Scientific Committee
 - 26.3.3 Report of Finance and Administration Committee
- 26.4 Consideration of methods of reducing cost to the Commission of running the Annual Meeting
(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 14(2))
- 26.5 Consideration of alternative methods of calculating contributions from Contracting Governments
(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 14(2))
- 26.6 Consideration of advance budget estimates for 1980/81 (Paper IWC/31/12)

27. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

(Rules of Procedure, Rule B1)

28. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

(to be circulated as Paper IWC/31/13)

29. ADHERENCE OF NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES TO THE CONVENTION

(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraph 22 and Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraphs 16 and 19(1))

- 29.1 Report by Secretary
- 29.2 Prohibition on importation of whale products from non-member countries including reports by member nations
- 29.3 Prohibition on the transfer of whaling vessels and equipment and other types of assistance from IWC member countries to non-member countries including reports by member nations
- 29.4 Action arising
(Amendments of the Schedule may be required)

30. REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALING, 1946
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 23)
 - 30.1 Report by Denmark on Preparatory Conference held in Copenhagen, July 1978
 - 30.2 Action arising

31. CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)
(Chairman's Reports of 30th Meeting, paragraph 24 and Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 15)
 - 31.1 Report by IWC Observer on the Second Meeting of the Parties, Costa Rica, March 1979
(Paper IWC/31/14)
 - 31.2 Action arising

32. CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS
(Paper IWC/31/15)
 - 32.1 Observer's Report on ICES
 - 32.2 Observer's Report on ICCAT
 - 32.3 Observer's Report on ICSEAF
 - 32.4 Report on the BIOMASS technical group on Data, Statistics and Resource Evaluation
(Chairman's Report of Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting, paragraph 12)

33. 30TH ANNUAL REPORT
(draft to be circulated as Paper IWC/31/16)

34. ADMISSION OF PRESS TO PLENARY SESSIONS
(Chairman's Report of 30th Meeting, paragraph 6)
 - 34.1 Review of experimental arrangements for 31st Annual Meeting
 - 34.2 Action arising

35. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

NOTES TO PROVISIONAL AGENDA

(These annotations have been compiled by the Secretariat from the information available. They are not intended to define the subject area under any agenda item, nor limit discussion to the matter noted.)

Item 2. OPENING STATEMENTS

Because of the pressure of time at this meeting, the Chairman intends to follow the practice adopted at the Tokyo Special Meetings of accepting opening statements from Commissioners and Observers in writing only. These will be collated by the Secretariat and distributed as Commission documents at the meeting.

Item 6. WORLD-WIDE BAN ON WHALING

Australia has requested that the item 'world-wide ban on whaling' be included in the Agenda stating:

"Although seeking to bring an end to whaling, Australia is aware that account will have to be taken of any adjustments required by the special needs of particular countries, such as the requirements of some nations for whale meat for protein and subsistence catches by some local communities.

The Commission is asked to consider what procedures would be necessary to institute a ban on whaling, the period over which such a ban could be instituted and, should any hardships be likely to result from the world-wide ban, what steps would be necessary to avoid undue hardship."

6.1 Moratorium on all commercial whaling

The United States of America has added this item with the following annotation:

"The current conservation programme as a reflection of the compromise reached in 1974 reveals serious flaws in design and practice. The United States of America intends to propose a moratorium on the commercial killing of whales based on the documentation of these flaws."

Item 7. REVIEW OF PRESENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

7.1 Report of Special Group of Scientists

At the 30th Annual Meeting, Australia proposed the discussion of a new management procedure, based upon a paper prepared by Dr. K.R. Allen. This was intended to improve upon the current scheme by overcoming identifiable weaknesses. The Scientific Committee reviewed the various factors involved, including the effect of environmental variability and changes in carrying capacity resulting from important inter-species interactions. They reported that errors in assessment of yields and of population levels arising from model structure and parameter values are generally of greater significance than stochastic environmental effects. Single species models which provide for a changing environment could be an effective approach. The Scientific Committee believed that the time seems appropriate to develop improvements in the present management procedure. Possible subjects to be considered include safety factors, optimum target levels and duration of quotas.

The Commission agreed that a special group of scientists should consider these matters by correspondence during the coming year, with perhaps a short meeting before the next Annual Meeting. The following membership was proposed:

Mr. J.F. Mermoz	(Argentina)
Dr. K.R. Allen	(Australia) - convenor
Dr. W.G. Doubleday	(Canada)
Dr. Y. Fukuda	(Japan)
Mr. D.J. Garrod	(UK)
or Mr. J. Horwood	
Dr. D.G. Chapman	(USA)
Dr. S.J. Holt	(FAO)

The USSR may also participate

The occasion of the special sperm whale meeting of the Scientific Committee allowed a preliminary meeting of the special group of scientists to be held in La Jolla, California on 26 November 1978. A further meeting is to be held in Lowestoft, UK on 15-16 June 1979.

Japan has indicated that it understands that this agenda item includes the consideration of step procedures and other measures for minimising fluctuations in the quota.

7.3.1 Southern minke whales

Given that the southern hemisphere minke whale population was increasing prior to the beginning of exploitation, the Scientific Committee was not able last June to recommend an appropriate classification of the stocks under the present management procedure. As an interim measure it suggested that the catch limits for 1978/79 might be set at the level of the present replacement yields.

7.3.1 Southern minke whales
(cont)

However, because of the high but variable proportion of females in the catches, three possible ways of calculating an overall catch limit were put forward which would ensure that for each Area the replacement yield of females was not exceeded. Since it is not possible for the industry to regulate the catches of each sex, the Technical Committee proposed that one of the safest options should be adopted. This was accepted by the Commission, together with a recommendation that the Commission may in future wish to consider an appropriate management strategy. This was referred to the newly structured Technical Committee for consideration.

The Technical Committee Working Group to deal with this subject will meet in Cambridge, UK, 4-6 July 1979.

7.3.2 Icelandic sei whales

During discussion of the catch limits for the Iceland-Denmark Strait stock of sei whales at the 30th Annual Meeting, Iceland described the successful effort regulation in its fishery for the past 30 years and pointed out that because of the erratic appearance of this less preferred species on the whaling grounds, the catch limits will be progressively reduced under the present averaging procedure. It indicated that it will raise the subject again this year.

Item 8.

CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS FOR WHALES OF
MANAGEMENT REGIMES FOR OTHER MARINE RESOURCES

Australia has requested the addition of this item, indicating that:

"In particular, the Commission is requested to consider how best to achieve co-ordination of its aims and the development of proposals to exploit krill or other Antarctic marine resources to ensure that the potential recovery of depleted baleen whale populations is not prejudiced."

In addition, the United Kingdom has stated:

"The proposed Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources is expected to establish a regime for the conservation of Antarctic krill. In view of the importance of krill to whale stocks in the area the UK considers it desirable to monitor krill catches before the Convention comes into force. The UK may propose that every effort should be made under existing arrangements to supply data on krill harvesting to the FAO until such time as other arrangements have been made for the collection and analysis of such data under the proposed Convention, and that the Secretary should communicate with FAO so that the data are available to the Scientific Committee in their assessments of whale stocks."

Item 8.
(cont)

CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS FOR WHALES OF
MANAGEMENT REGIMES FOR OTHER MARINE RESOURCES

The Secretary has therefore transferred the original draft agenda item 26.4 which relates to this subject to this new agenda item, with the addition of sub-item 8.1 in order to emphasise and accommodate the need for Commission action, and as requested by the United States of America.

Item 9. WHALE SANCTUARIES

The United States of America notes the proposal of the Government of the Seychelles for a whale sanctuary in the Indian Ocean and proposes to examine the wider issue of cetacean sanctuaries in general.

9.1 Declaration of a whale sanctuary in the Indian Ocean

The Government of Seychelles states that it "will propose an amendment to the Schedule under Article V(i)(c) to the effect that all commercial whaling, of baleen or sperm whales, be prohibited in all of Area IV; in Area III East of 20 degrees East; in Divisions 3,4 and 5; and in the Indian Ocean North of the Equator and Eastwards to 100 degrees East."

Item 10. MANAGEMENT OF SPERM WHALE STOCKS

10.1.1 Effect of by-catch of female sperm whales on the stocks and their dynamics

10.1.2 Consideration of alternatives such as size limits

After setting catch limits for the sperm whales in the North Pacific at the Tokyo Special Meeting held in December 1978 which included a provision for a by-catch of females, the Commission agreed, because of difficulties with this concept, that the Scientific Committee should study the effect of such a by-catch of females on the stocks and their dynamics; they should also consider alternatives such as size limits.

10.1.3 Biological consequences of raising the size limit

The Commission further agreed at the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting that the Scientific Committee should fully examine the biological consequences of raising the size limit for sperm whales.

10.1.4 Allowance between Divisions

At the 30th Annual Meeting the Commission agreed on the advice of the Scientific Committee that there should be no 10% allowance between Divisions for the sperm whale catches in the Southern Hemisphere as permitted in previous years. Japan, supported by the USSR, asked that this matter should be considered further by the Scientific Committee at its next meeting. Lack of time prevented discussion of this matter at the special sperm whale meeting of the Scientific Committee held in November-December 1978, and it will now be considered at the June-July meeting in Cambridge this year.

Item 11.

DECLARATION OF A THREE YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE COMMERCIAL TAKING OF SPERM WHALES

The Government of Seychelles states that it "is deeply concerned that the Scientific Committee of the Commission has recently found itself unable to offer advice concerning the numbers and state of sperm whales in the North Pacific Ocean, or to recommend relevant catch quotas there.

Concern is also expressed over the fact that the Committee failed in its two most recent meetings to update estimates of Southern Hemisphere sperm whale populations, save in Division 5 where it found them to be unexpectedly low.

For these reasons, and in view of the fact that a large number of biological samples from past catches still remain unanalysed, the Government believes that all catching of sperm whales should cease - at least until there is a sound scientific basis for its safe continuation."

Item 12.

WHALE STOCKS AND CATCH LIMITS, 1979/80 SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE PELAGIC SEASON AND 1980 PELAGIC AND COASTAL SEASONS ELSEWHERE

The Scientific Committee will hold a special meeting in Cambridge to consider the assessment of Southern Hemisphere sei whales, 18-21 June, followed by the regular meeting of the Committee, 22 June - 3 July 1979.

12.2.3 North Atlantic

The United States of America wishes to establish a quota for the Spain-Portugal-British Isles stock of fin whales in the North Atlantic.

-12.2.5- Adjustment to quotas to reflect take by non-members

The United States of America has added this item with the comment:

"The taking of whales by non-members contrary to IWC regulations compromises the effectiveness of IWC programmes. The United States of America wishes to examine the matter of establishing quotas that reflect the taking of whales by non-members in excess of quotas."

Item 13.

IMPLICATIONS OF ANY TAKE OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE BRYDE'S WHALES FOR COMMISSION'S MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The Government of Seychelles states:

"If the results obtained from scientific sampling in the Indian and South West Pacific Oceans as requested by the Scientific Committee in June 1978 (Annex C Item 11.2.1), lead to any proposals for quotas other than zero, the question arises of operations for taking such quotas.

Item 13.
(cont)

IMPLICATIONS OF ANY TAKE OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE BRYDE'S
WHALES FOR COMMISSION'S MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The only alternative appears to be the establishment of new land bases, possibly in countries which are not yet members of the Commission; or opening of the area between 40 degrees North and 40 degrees South to pelagic baleen whaling.

The Government of Seychelles suggests that either alternative would be regressive and asks first for:-

- a) a full report on scientific samples already taken.
and
- b) an assurance that no quotas will be set without consultation, preferably at a Special Meeting of both the Scientific Committee and the full Commission, following study of all aspects of the Bryde's whale situation.

We are also concerned about the possibility that pelagic whaling may take place in the Indian Ocean, as it already has in the Atlantic, under the flag of convenience of a non-member or an ex-member country. We urge the Commission to consider this possibility and its implications here and under other items on its agenda.

The Government of Seychelles will provide the Commission with evidence in support of its concern."

Item 14.

REVIEW OF SUBSISTENCE/ABORIGINAL WHALING

The United Kingdom Government has notified the Commission of the catches of North Atlantic humpback whales by Bequia under the terms of the resolution proposed by the Government of the United States of America at the 30th Annual Meeting in London. The Scientific Committee will wish to employ these data in its assessment of the stock and give an indication of the effect of the catches upon it. The UK Government may propose action on the fishery in the light of this assessment.

14.1. Development of management regimes including definition of terms

Because of the many problems raised during discussion of the Bering Sea stock of bowheads and the Alaskan Eskimo subsistence fishery at the 30th Annual Meeting the Commission adopted a resolution that a Working Group of the Technical Committee examine the entire aboriginal whaling problem and develop proposals for a regime for the aboriginal bowhead hunt in Alaska and, if appropriate, a regime or regimes for other aboriginal hunts to be submitted to the Commission for consideration at the next Annual Meeting.

Item 14.1
(cont)

Development of management regimes including definition of terms

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting the Commission accepted an offer by the USA to host a meeting of experts which was held in Seattle, 5-9 February 1979, and a Technical Committee Working Group which met in Washington D.C., 3-5 April 1979 to develop appropriate management regimes. The reports of these meetings have been distributed to the Commission for study.

14.2.2 Review of exemption allowing capture of 10 humpback whales in Greenland waters, including Report by Denmark

Last year the Scientific Committee recommended that the present exemption allowing up to 10 humpback whales to be taken in Greenland waters by aborigines be removed and urged that fin whales should be taken instead. After discussing the subsistence needs and practical aspects explained by Denmark, the Commission agreed to increase the fin whale catch limit for the West Greenland stock from 4 to 15, with a footnote that the combined catch limit of fin and humpback whales in West Greenland waters shall not exceed 15 whales.

The Commission also adopted a Resolution calling upon the Danish Government to attempt to substitute fin whales for humpback whales in the fishery.

14.2.3 Gray whales including Reports by Mexico, USSR and USA on Action Taken

The Commission agreed at the 30th Annual Meeting that a footnote to the catch limit for the Eastern Stock of gray whales should be added in the Schedule stating:

"Available to be taken by aborigines or a Contracting Government on behalf of aborigines pursuant to paragraph 11 but not for commercial purposes."

It also requested that the Soviet aboriginal fishery should be managed to achieve a more balanced sex ratio and noted the joint statement by Mexico and USA on research and conservation measures which they are developing.

14.3 Workshop on Arctic Whaling and Subsistence Whaling

The Chairman of the Technical Committee wrote in a letter to Commissioners dated 5 October 1978 that time constraints will not facilitate the preparation of detailed documentation sufficient to permit adequate consideration of all aspects of Arctic whales and subsistence whaling in advance of the 31st Annual Meeting. To conduct a more detailed review Canada has proposed to host a "Workshop on Arctic Whales and Subsistence Whaling" to be convened under the joint auspices of the Scientific Committee and Technical Committee in Canada during the period November 1979 - April 1980.

14.3
(cont)

Workshop on Arctic Whaling and Subsistence Whaling

The meeting should consider bowhead, humpback, beluga, narwhal, gray whale and miscellaneous other species as relevant (eg. killer whales and harbor porpoise). The Workshop would focus entirely on technical and scientific aspects and produce a Report and papers intended to form the basis of a published volume.

It is further proposed that participants in the Workshop include invited experts, representatives of governments, formal IWC observers and members of the IWC Scientific and Technical Committees.

Item 15.

STOCKS OF SMALL CETACEANS

At the 30th Annual Meeting the Commission endorsed certain recommendations of the Scientific Committee concerning small cetaceans. These included:

- (1) Research by member nations into competition between small cetaceans and fishermen should be encouraged.
- (2) Statistics and data on all types of small cetacean fisheries (including direct, incidental and live capture) should be submitted to the IWC as part of the national scientific progress reports, to be reviewed by the small cetaceans sub-committee of the Scientific Committee and forwarded to the Bureau of International Whaling Statistics. The USA reminded the Commission that it had adopted a Resolution at the 29th Annual Meeting covering some of these requirements.

In connection with point (1) the IWC observer at the first special meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas noted the problems raised by killer whales interfering with tuna fishing operations in the Gulf of Guinea (Paper IWC/31/15).

Item 17.

CONSIDERATION OF THE ETHICS OF KILLING CETACEANS

Last year the Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Scientific Committee that the Secretariat continues to seek information on behavioural studies in relation to assessment and management, enquires into the possibilities of a co-sponsored meeting and encourages outside specialists to provide documents for discussion at the next Annual Meeting.

Despite approaches to all member governments, and other bodies which have expressed interest in this matter, little practical support for a meeting has been received except from some environmental groups. No additional documentation has been forthcoming except material prepared for other purposes such as the Australian Inquiry into Whales and Whaling. The Commission may therefore like to consider sponsoring the proposed meeting alone, as there is considerable interest in the scientific community in this subject.

18. HUMANE KILLING

18.1 Value of data presently being collected in consistence with the IWC Resolution of 1978

At the 30th Annual Meeting an amendment to the Schedule was adopted requiring the reporting of information on:

"methods used to kill a whale, other than a harpoon, and in particular compressed air;

number of whales struck but lost."

In addition, the Commission adopted the following Resolution on reporting data relative to humane killing:

"WHEREAS little data on the humaneness of methods currently used to kill whales are available;

and

WHEREAS the Contracting Governments of the International Whaling Commission desire whales to be killed by the most humane method possible;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

that all whale catchers operating in conjunction with factory ships, land stations, and small-type whaling operations, and native operations taking species listed in paragraph 1 of the Schedule should report the following information on each whale taken, whenever possible:

- (1) Time to death from the time struck,
- (2) Information relating to the reliability of the killing device."

18.2 Review of IWC sponsored research programme

Last year the Commission accepted the following recommendations endorsed by the Technical Committee:

- (1) A systematic investigation and evaluation of the efficiency of present methods of killing whales is needed, in particular observations by suitably qualified veterinarians and other personnel of the rapidity of unconsciousness and death and of the nature of the injuries caused. Such observations should cover examples of at least one pelagic or coastal operation for large whales and one small-type whaling operation.
- (2) Following these field observations, and depending on the nature of the conclusions reached, a report-back meeting should be held between the research personnel and the IWC representatives to decide on future action.

18.2 Review of IWC sponsored research programme

(cont)

- (3) Further research by qualified personnel into electrical, pharmacological and explosive methods should be urged on whaling nations in an effort to achieve the most humane methods of killing whales as quickly as possible.
- (4) In order to compare results from different fisheries, standard criteria for unconsciousness and death should be formulated.
- (5) The information requested in 1977 should continue to be collected and forwarded to the Secretary for analysis.

Canada indicated that Professor H.C. Rowsell, an experienced veterinarian familiar with marine mammals, was willing to undertake items 1,2 and 4. Iceland offered the necessary facilities for the research and the Commission agreed to allocate funds from the \$10,000 given by Canada to the IWC Research Fund for this programme.

The field work was carried out during the 1978 whaling season at Iceland, and a report will be submitted to the Scientific Committee and the Technical Committee Working Group for consideration at their meetings in Cambridge, June-July 1979.

Item 19. PRIOR REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC PERMITS - POSSIBLE SCHEDULE AMENDMENT

At the 30th Annual Meeting the United States of America suggested that the requirement for prior review of special permits by the Scientific Committee should be written into the Schedule, but the Technical Committee agreed that the subject should be reconsidered again this year when the Secretary had obtained legal advice on such a requirement.

Item 20. PROHIBITION OF WHALING BY OPERATIONS FAILING TO SUPPLY ALL DATA STIPULATED

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting a schedule change requiring reporting of biological collections was approved by the Commission, but action on another proposal which would prohibit whaling by operations failing to supply all data stipulated was deferred, since doubt was expressed concerning its legality under Article V of the Convention. The Commission accepted the Technical Committee recommendation that the matter be referred for legal advice and reconsidered at the 31st Annual Meeting.

am 21. REVISION OF THE SCHEDULE BY LAWYERS

Professional advice has indicated that a complete review and revision of the Schedule from a legal standpoint would be a lengthy and costly process. The Commission at its 30th Annual Meeting therefore endorsed the Finance and Administration Committee's recommendation that a working group of lawyers from member nations be convened by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Commission to rewrite the IWC Schedule. Member nations should cover the cost of this group's work.

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting the Commission accepted the recommendation of the Technical Committee that scientists familiar with whaling operations should join the group of lawyers which is to revise the Schedule.

Amongst the matters to be considered it was noted last year by the Infractions sub-committee that the Schedule is ambiguous concerning a "whale taken" or "lost whale", in that it contains prohibitions that refer to "taking", "killing" and "striking", as well as the definitions in paragraph 1. It was agreed that these terms should be reviewed at the earliest opportunity by the legal group of the new Technical Committee.

The Working Group is to hold a meeting in Cambridge, 4-6 July 1979.

Item 23 NEW INTERNATIONAL OBSERVER SCHEME

At the 30th Annual Meeting the United States of America suggested that more flexible means of exchanging Observers might be considered, such as rotating the existing Observers between the various schemes already operating. It was decided that this possibility should be referred to the new Technical Committee, together with the instruction to develop proposals for an expanded Observer scheme to be administered through the Secretariat, for consideration by the Technical and Finance and Administration Committees at their next meetings.

At its Special Meeting held in Tokyo, December 1978, the Commission agreed to give a specific mandate to the Working Group of the Technical Committee on New Observer Schemes (Appendix A). It also agreed that a meeting of the Working Group should be held during the week before the 31st Annual Meeting, and this has been arranged for 4-6 July 1979 in Cambridge.

n 24. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

The Scientific Committee will meet in New Hall, Cambridge, from 22 June - 3 July 1979. The report of the meeting will be available at the opening of the Commission meeting.

Item 25. ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Working Groups of the Technical Committee will meet in New Hall, Cambridge, 4-6 July 1979. The Technical Committee will meet during the week 9-13 July 1979, and its report will be distributed as soon as it is available.

Item 26. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

26.3 Consideration of provision of full-time computer capability

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting some members expressed support for a higher budget, particularly in the light of the urgent need expressed by the Scientific Committee for a computer capability within the IWC Secretariat; others expressed great concern about the rapid rate of growth of the IWC's budget over recent years and suggested the development of the needed computer capability be accomplished in several phases beginning in 1978/79. After extended discussion, the Commission accepted a compromise intended to give expression to the Commission's support in principle for a computer capability without increasing the budget recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee. This was that £1,000 should be allocated to funding the preliminary design study on a computer facility as recommended by the Scientific Committee, noting the comment that, unless the preliminary design study indicated that the proposed computer arrangements were impractical, its acceptance implied a commitment to meet the establishment costs and a full year's running costs in the next year. The Commission also agreed that member nations be urged to contribute on a voluntary basis to the development of that capability as soon as possible.

26.4 Consideration of methods of reducing the cost to the Commission of running the Annual Meeting

Denmark had proposed to the Finance and Administration Committee at the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting that funds be obtained by charging registration fees at meetings. The Committee had not accepted the proposal, having doubts about the precedent it might create, but the Danish Commissioner indicated that he would raise the matter again in the agenda for the 31st Annual Meeting.

26.

(at)

26.5

Consideration of alternative methods of calculating contributions from Contracting Governments

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting the Finance and Administration Committee had reviewed a possible alternative to the present formula for calculating national contributions developed by the USA as a possible response to concerns expressed in the previous June by some member nations that the present formula does not produce an equitable distribution. By setting a fixed fee for each area of interest, the new alternative would allow member nations to significantly increase contributions by claiming additional areas of interest. The Commission agreed that it merits further consideration, and that the Finance and Administration Committee should review this and any other such proposals at the next Annual Meeting.

Item 27.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Because of the extreme difficulties experienced by the Secretariat in obtaining suitable accommodation for the Annual Meeting at short notice, the Commission may like to plan the dates and venues for its meetings more than one year ahead.

Item 28.

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Finance and Administration Committee will meet during the week 9-13 July 1979, and its report will be distributed as soon as it is available.

Item 29.

ADHERENCE OF NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES TO THE CONVENTION

29.1

Report by Secretary

The Commission adopted a Resolution at its 30th Annual Meeting concerning whaling by non-member nations. The appropriate version was sent to the People's Republic of China concerning Bryde's whales in the Western North Pacific; the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China concerning minke whales in the Sea of Japan; Portugal concerning sperm whales in the North Atlantic; Tonga concerning humpback whales in the Southern Hemisphere; Cyprus in relation to the Sierra believed to be taking baleen whales in the Atlantic; providing these governments with information on IWC actions on these stocks, requesting catch, biological and other data, and encouraging them to become members of the Commission.

Item 29.

it)

29.1 Report by Secretary

(cont)

Similar resolutions were sent to Peru, concerning sperm, sei and Bryde's whales in the Southern Hemisphere; Republic of Korea concerning Bryde's whales in the Western North Pacific and minke whales in the Sea of Japan; Spain concerning fin and sperm whales in the North Atlantic; Chile concerning sperm and sei whales in the North Atlantic; indicating also that the Commission is pleased to hear that they plan to join the Commission.

29.2 Prohibition on importation of whale products from non-member countries including reports by member nations

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting the Commission adopted a Resolution concerning the importation of whale products from non-IWC member nations, pending further study of possible Schedule amendments. This resolves that member nations report to each meeting of the Commission what measures they have taken to implement the Resolution.

29.3 Prohibition of the transfer of whaling vessels and equipment and other types of assistance from IWC member countries to non-member countries including reports by member nations

A Resolution dealing with the transfer of whaling equipment and expertise etc. was adopted at the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting which also resolves that all member nations shall report concerning the implementation of this Resolution at each meeting of the Commission.

29.4 Action arising

The United States of America suggested the addition of the note indicating the possibility of Schedule amendments.

Item 30.

REVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE REGULATION OF WHALING, 1946

A Preparatory Conference was held in Copenhagen, 4-7 July 1978. The Danish Government has distributed the Rapporteur's report of the meeting and the revised draft text developed then.

Portugal has indicated that the Regional Government of Madeira has offered to hold the next Preparatory Meeting in 1979.

Item 31.

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

At the Tokyo 1978 Special Meeting it was agreed that the Secretary should circulate the proposals concerning the listing of cetaceans in the CITES Appendices put forward by the UK, so that some comments may be submitted before the March 1979 meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CITES. However, following the distribution of the draft suggested observations from the IWC on the Proposals Concerning Cetaceans submitted by the UK to CITES, the Secretary received the opinion that it is not possible for this Commission to develop any statement of its position except at a meeting of all members.

After consultation with the Chairman of the Commission, the Secretary therefore sent the following message to the Secretary of the CITES:

"The IWC regrets that as it has not held a meeting since the UK Proposals Concerning Cetaceans were made available to it, there has been no opportunity for all the members of the Commission to develop or agree on a statement of its position. The IWC is therefore unable to make any comment on the proposals at this time."

Item 34.

ADMISSION OF PRESS TO PLENARY SESSIONS

Last year the Commission agreed that at its 31st Annual Meeting all plenary sessions will be open to the press without audio or visual recording equipment, unless the Commissioners decide by a simple majority to close a particular session. The results of this arrangement will be reviewed before the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	1. Tech. Com. Australian proposal re worldwide ban on whaling			2. Tech. Com. U.S. proposal moratorium on all commercial whaling			3. Plenary Moratorium on use of factory ships (except for minke whales)			4. Plenary Moratorium on whaling by coastal stations		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina	X			X			X			X		
Australia	X			X			X			X		
Brazil			X			X			X			X
Canada	X					X	X					X
Chile			X		X		X				X	
Denmark	X					X	X					X
France			X	X			X			X		
Iceland			X		X		X				X	
Japan		X			X			X			X	
Korea, Republic of		X			X				X		X	
Mexico	X			X			X			X		
Netherlands	X			X			X			X		
New Zealand	X			X			X			X		
Norway			X			X	X					X
Panama	X			X			X			X		
Peru			X		X		X				X	
Seychelles	X			X			X			X		
South Africa	X					X	X					X
Spain			X			X			X			X
Sweden	X			X			X			X		
USSR		X			X			X				X
UK	X			X			X			X		
USA	X			X			X			X		
TOTAL	13	3	7	11	6	6	18	2	3	11	5	6

CARRIED

CARRIED

CARRIED

FAILED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	5. Tech. Com. Seychelles proposed Indian Ocean sanctuary			6. Plenary Indian Ocean sanctuary			7. Plenary North Atlantic sperm whales zero quota			8. Plenary North Atlantic sperm whales quota 273		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina	X			X					X			X
Australia	X			X			X					X
Brazil			X			X			X			X
Canada			X			X		X		X		
Chile			X	ABSENT					X			X
Denmark			X	X				X		X		
France	X			X			X				X	
Iceland	X			X				X		X		
Japan		X			X			X		X		
Korea, Republic of		X			X			X		X		
Mexico	X			X					X			X
Netherlands	X			X			X					X
New Zealand	X			X					X			X
Norway	X			X				X		X		
Panama	X			X			X					X
Peru			X			X		X		X		
Seychelles	X			X			X				X	
South Africa		X		X				X		X		
Spain	X			X				X		X		
Sweden	X			X					X			X
USSR		X			X				X			X
UK	X			X			X					X
USA	X			X					X	X		
TOTAL	14	4	5	16	3	3	6	9	8	10	2	11

CARRIED

CARRIED

FAILED

CARRIED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record	9. Plenary North Paci- fic sperm whale quota 1100 with 11.5% by- catch			10. Plenary North Paci- fic sperm whale quota 1350 with 11.5% by- catch			11. Tech. Com. Div. 9 S.Hem. sperm whale quota 550 for 1980 300 for 1981 0 for 1982			12. Tech. Com. Div. 1 sperm whale quota 30		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina			X			X	X					X
Australia	X					X			X			X
Brazil			X	X			X			X		
Canada			X	X				X				X
Chile			X			X	X			X		
Denmark		X		X			X			X		
France	X				X			X			X	
Iceland		X		X			X			X		
Japan		X		X			X			X		
Korea, Republic of		X		X			X			X		
Mexico	X					X	X			X		
Netherlands			X		X			X			X	
New Zealand	X					X		X			X	
Norway		X		X			X			X		
Panama	X				X		X				X	
Peru		X		X			X			X		
Seychelles	X				X			X			X	
South Africa			X	X			X			X		
Spain			X			X	X					X
Sweden	X			X			X				X	
USSR		X		X					X			X
UK			X	X				X			X	
USA	X					X	X			X		
TOTAL	8	7	8	12	4	7	15	6	2	11	7	5

FAILED

CARRIED

CARRIED

CARRIED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	13. Tech. Com. 3 yr. moratorium on sperm whales			14. Plenary 3 yr. moratorium on sperm whales			15. Plenary Southern Hemisphere minke whale quota 6319		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina	X			X					X
Australia	X			X					X
Brazil			X			X		X	
Canada			X			X		X	
Chile		X		ABSENT				X	
Denmark		X			X			X	
France	X			X			X		
Iceland		X			X			X	
Japan		X			X			X	
Korea, Republic of		X			X			X	
Mexico	X			X					X
Netherlands	X			X			X		
New Zealand	X			X					X
Norway			X			X		X	
Panama	X			X			X		
Peru		X			X			X	
Seychelles	X			X			X		
South Africa			X			X			X
Spain			X			X			X
Sweden	X			X					X
USSR		X			X			X	
UK	X			X					X
USA	X			X					X
TOTAL	11	7	5	11	6	5	4	10	9

CARRIED

FAILED

FAILED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	16. Plenary Southern Hem. minke whales quota 8102			17. Tech. Com. South- ern Hem. Area 1 (Peru) Bryde's whales quota 153			18. Plenary Southern Hem. Area 1 (Peru) Bryde's whales quota 264			19. Tech. Com. West Greenland minke whales quota 370		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina			X	X					X	X		
Australia	X			X					X	X		
Brazil	X					X	X					X
Canada	X			X					X			X
Chile	X				X		X					X
Denmark	X				X		X				X	
France		X		X					X	X		
Iceland	X					X	X				X	
Japan	X				X		X				X	
Korea, Republic of	X				X		X				X	
Mexico			X	X					X	X		
Netherlands		X		X				X		X		
New Zealand	X			X				X		X		
Norway	X					X	X				X	
Panama		X				X		X		X		
Peru	X				X		X					X
Seychelles			X	X					X	X		
South Africa	X			X					X	X		
Spain	X				X		X					X
Sweden			X	X					X	X		
USSR	X					X			X			X
UK			X	X					X	X		
USA	X			X					X	X		
TOTAL	15	3	5	12	6	5	9	3	11	12	5	6

CARRIED

CARRIED

CARRIED

CARRIED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	20. Plenary West Green- land minke whales quota 394			21. Tech. Com. Spain- Portugal British Isles fin whales 0 quota			22. Tech. Com. Spain- Portugal British Isles fin whales quota 200			23. Tech. Com. Spain- Portugal British Isles fin whales quota 143		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina			X			X			X	X		
Australia		X		X				X		X		
Brazil	X				X				X	X		
Canada	X				X			X		X		
Chile	X				X		X			X		
Denmark	X				X		X					X
France		X		X				X			X	
Iceland	X				X		X			X		
Japan	X				X		X			X		
Korea, Republic of	X					X	X			X		
Mexico			X			X			X	X		
Netherlands		X		X				X				X
New Zealand		X		X				X				X
Norway	X				X				X	X		
Panama		X		X				X				X
Peru	X				X		X			X		
Seychelles		X		X				X				X
South Africa			X			X		X		X		
Spain			X		X		X					X
Sweden			X	X				X				X
USSR			X			X			X			X
UK			X	X				X				X
USA	X					X			X			X
TOTAL	10	6	7	8	9	6	7	10	6	12	1	10

FAILED

FAILED

FAILED

CARRIED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	24. Tech. Com. Ice- land-Denmark Strait sei whales quota 59			25. Tech. Com. Ice- land-Denmark Strait sei whales 6 yr. block quota 504 with max.			26. Tech. Com. Alaska Bowhead quota 18/27 100 in any year			27. Plenary Alaska Bowhead 0 quota		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina			X			X	X				X	
Australia			X			X		X		X		
Brazil			X			X	ABSENT					X
Canada			X		X				X			X
Chile		X		X			X				X	
Denmark		X		X			X				X	
France	X				X				X	X		
Iceland		X		X					X			X
Japan		X		X			X				X	
Korea, Republic of		X		X			X					X
Mexico	X				X		X				X	
Netherlands	X				X			X		X		
New Zealand			X			X		X		X		
Norway		X		X					X			X
Panama			X			X			X	X		
Peru		X		X			X				X	
Seychelles			X	X					X	X		
South Africa			X			X		X				X
Spain			X	X					X			X
Sweden	X				X		ABSENT					X
USSR			X			X			X		X	
UK			X			X			X			X
USA	X				X		X				X	
TOTAL	5	7	11	9	6	8	8	4	9	6	8	9

FAILED

CARRIED

CARRIED

FAILED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	28. Plenary Alaska Bowhead 18/27 quota			29. Plenary Alaska Bowhead 18/26 quota			30. Tech. Com. To remove ex- emption from schedule all- owing take of 10 humpback by Greenland			31. Plenary To remove the exemption from the schedule allow- ing a take of 10 hump- backs by Greenland.		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina	X			X					X			X
Australia		X			X		X			X		
Brazil			X			X			X			X
Canada			X			X	X					X
Chile	X			X					X		X	
Denmark	X			X				X			X	
France			X			X			X	X		
Iceland	X			X				X			X	
Japan	X			X					X		X	
Korea, Republic of	X			X					X		X	
Mexico	X			X					X			X
Netherlands		X			X		X			X		
New Zealand		X			X		X			X		
Norway			X			X			X			X
Panama	X				X		X			X		
Peru	X			X			ABSENT				X	
Seychelles		X				X			X	X		
South Africa		X				X	X					X
Spain	X			X					X	ABSENT		
Sweden	X			X			ABSENT					X
USSR	X			X					X		X	
UK			X			X			X			X
USA	X			X				X				X
TOTAL	13	5	5	12	4	7	6	3	12	6	7	9

FAILED

CARRIED

CARRIED

FAILED

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

1979

Voting Record

	32. Plenary Schedule amend ment requiring prior review of scientific points			33. Tech. Com. Prohibition of operations failing to supply all dates			34. Plenary Prohibition of operations failing to supply all dates			35. Plenary To delay esta- blishment of computer facility for 1 year		
	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs	Yes	No	Abs
Argentina			X	X				X		X		
Australia	X			X			X				X	
Brazil			X			X		X		X		
Canada	X			X			X				X	
Chile			X		X			X		X		
Denmark			X			X			X		X	
France	X			X			X			X		
Iceland	X			X			X				X	
Japan		X			X			X			X	
Korea, Republic of		X			X			X				X
Mexico			X	X					X	X		
Netherlands	X			X			X				X	
New Zealand	X			X			X				X	
Norway	X			X					X		X	
Panama	X			X			X				X	
Peru		X			X			X		NOT PRESENT		
Seychelles	X			X			X			X		
South Africa	X			X					X		X	
Spain			X			X			X			X
Sweden	X			NOT PRESENT			X				X	
USSR		X			X			X		X		
UK	X			X			X				X	
USA	X			X			X				X	
TOTAL	13	4	6	14	5	3	11	7	5	7	13	2

CARRIED

CARRIED

FAILED

FAILED

CANADIAN STATEMENT ON MORATORIUM ISSUEJULY 11, 1979

Mr. Chairman. I would like to provide some comment to my fellow Commissioners regarding the position which Canada has adopted on the moratorium question. As I am sure you are aware, Canada supported the resolution which was adopted at the 1972 Stockholm Conference and which called for a 10-year moratorium on commercial whaling. Later that year Canada closed, by government order, its own commercial whaling industry; this was done for conservation reasons. At the 1973 annual meeting of the Commission Canada supported the 10-year moratorium proposal as a generalization but pointed out that it would not necessarily vote for a zero harvest for all species in all areas. In this regard Canada referred to consideration of the livelihood of local citizens harvesting whales at levels consistent with scientific advice. In 1973 the Scientific Committee indicated that there was no scientific basis for a blanket moratorium and such was not adopted by the Commission.

In 1974 we supported the amendment proposing the New Management Procedure and since that time have supported stock classifications and quotas on commercial whaling consistent with Scientific Committee advice.

You will note that Canada has abstained on the new moratorium proposal brought forward this year. In this regard I note the advice of our Scientific Committee which did not recommend that there was a firm scientific basis for a blanket moratorium. In such a case we need to consider the needs and rights of coastal states to exploit marine mammal resources in their zones subject to sound conservation requirements. Nevertheless, we did not oppose the moratorium proposal since we are very concerned

that the significant arguments raised in support of the moratorium proposal must be effectively addressed by the Commission.

(a) A moratorium on whaling by IWC members will not stop whaling by non-members, particularly by operations which fly flags of convenience, to harvest even endangered species. This problem requires strong action by Commission members particularly in removing the market for the products of such operations. Canada, for its part, announced at the December 1978 meeting of the Commission an amendment to our import regulations to take action on this. We were very pleased with the recent announcement of the Government of Japan, a major consumer of whale products, of its ban on imports from non-members.

(b) While the New Management Regime is a great improvement over our earlier procedures we have realized that improvements are needed to this regime. In the meantime, we should be prepared to take necessary interim actions as we did at the December 1978 meeting in protecting the Southern Hemisphere Division 5 sperm whale stock.

(c) The problem of submission of research data required in the Schedule is the subject of item 20 of our agenda. Canada supports prohibition of whaling by operations failing to supply all data stipulated.

(d) Finally, there is the question of funding of the Commission. I am pleased to report that Canada will be supporting the necessary large budget increases to allow the provision of computer services for the Scientific Committee.

Canada will be watching very carefully the progress which the Commission makes over the next year in addressing the problems before us.

(Shortly subsequent to this statement amendments were moved which had the effect of dividing the question so that pelagic whaling (by factory ships) and coastal whaling moratorium were considered separately. Canada voted for the moratorium proposal which was adopted with respect to pelagic operations (which contained an exemption for minke whales) and, consistent with the comments in paragraph 3 above, abstained on the vote for a coastal whaling moratorium.)

M. C. Mercer,
Commissioner.

Annex IV

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP ON HUMANE KILLING,
Cambridge 4-5 July 1979

1. Present were the following:-

J.D. Ovington (convenor))	
R.J. Lomax)	Australia
M. Mercer)	
H. Rowsell)	
D. Goodman)	Canada
E. Mitchell)	
J. Rørvik)	
I. Christensen)	Norway
T.B. Caughley	-	New Zealand -
T. Saito)	
S. Hasui)	
K. Yamamura)	
M. Ohnishi)	Japan
Y. Yoshinari)	
T. Takayama)	
P.B. Best	-	South Africa
R.C. Gurd)	
S.G. Brown)	United Kingdom
T. Garrett)	
R. Barstow)	U.S.A.
L. Watson	-	Seychelles

2. Best was appointed rapporteur.

3. The Working Group had before it (a) a report by Prof. Rowsell on his recent observations at the Icelandic whaling station, entitled "Assessment of harpooning as a humane killing method in whales", and (b) section 19 of the Scientific Committee's report on humane killing. Prof. Rowsell also showed a number of slides on the general question of the humane killing of animals (including whales).

4. Prof. Rowsell introduced his paper and defined a humane death as one in which there is no panic and fear and in which the animal is rendered unconscious (and so insensitive to pain) rapidly. He indicated the difficulties associated with finding a suitable criterion for unconsciousness or death in whales at sea, particularly as it was impossible

to use the corneal reflex, and because cessation of movement did not seem a very accurate criterion of unconsciousness in these animals. In many previous studies, the criterion used had not been stated, and no post-mortem examinations had been made. Without a post-mortem, you could not ascertain the extent of the damage caused by the harpoon (8).

Prof. Rowsell commented on the lack of an apparent escape reaction (other than diving when first struck) in the two whales he saw harpooned. This contrasted with film he had seen of minke whales harpooned using a cold grenade (i.e. one in which the grenade was unarmed). He stressed that he had so far been unable to examine any minke whales or whales killed in aboriginal whaling, so that his findings should be considered applicable only to normal harpooning operations for large whales. Prof. Rowsell stated that the sensitivity of the whale to pain was unknown. He mentioned that some scientists had claimed that the weak development of the dorsal horns of the spinal cord might be interpreted as a relative lack of sensitivity to body damage compared to terrestrial mammals. More work was needed on the sensory nerve path ways and functions of the spinal ganglia, spinal cord and brain, and on the oxygen needs of the whale brain.

The possibility of establishing field criteria for judging the point of unconsciousness was then discussed. It was felt that at present while it might be relatively easy to establish that a whale was still conscious (breathing, vocalising, etc.), it was much more difficult, if not impossible, to say when unconsciousness set in - the whale could remain silent and cease respiration temporarily without losing consciousness. The whalers' estimation of the time of death, based on complete cessation of movement, had some merit, but did not preclude the possibility of the whale being unconscious some time before the recorded time of death, or of continuing to be conscious some time after death had been estimated.

Prof. Rowsell believed that post-mortem examinations allowed certain general assumptions to be made concerning the time from harpooning to death. Cervical dislocation, for instance, indicated immediate unconsciousness, and a pierced heart probably produced rapid unconsciousness. Massive haemorrhage in the chest was also suggestive of rapid death, though pulmonary oedema was an indication that the animal had been breathing between being harpooned and dying. He estimated that a "rapid" death (as referred to in his report) was one occurring in less than 3 minutes following harpooning. The validity of the post-mortem findings as an indication of the time taken to die could possibly be tested during euthanasia of irretrievably stranded cetaceans.

Hasui reviewed the efforts of the Japanese whaling industry over the last 30 years to improve the humaneness of their harpooning operations. Experiments had been undertaken with electric harpoons, but because blubber was a good insulator, the current tended to flow to the sea water rather than through the body of the whale. Further technical problems were caused by the great friction arising from the stretching of the forerunner line when the whale was fast - this tended to cut the wire inside the forerunner or to cause it to lose its insulating cover. The harpoon often penetrated right through the whale, and then the electric current was completely ineffective. Experiments with electric harpooning were therefore discontinued about 20 years ago. Trials were also made using carbon dioxide gas injected into the abdomen to produce a tamponade effect, but the CO₂ and the blood reacted to turn the meat black and hence made it unacceptable for human consumption. The method was therefore not put into practice. Five sperm, 1 sei, 3 bottlenose and 1 minke whale were anaesthetised using the drug succinylcholine chloride in a syringe fired into the body. When the drug was completely injected the animal was killed. Residues in the body, however, made this method impractical. In 1973/74 an explosive bullet was introduced for killing minke whales following harpooning. This was slightly smaller than 12 bore calibre, had 10-15 grains black gunpowder, and was fired into the neck of the whale. Due to the difficulty of placing the bullet accurately when the ship and whale were moving, the results were not entirely satisfactory. The method was discontinued in 1976/77 in favour of an electric lance. This has proved the most effective method to date. Electrodes are placed either side of the heart when the whale is drawn to the bows following harpooning, and the current is passed through the heart. So far 110 volts AC and 50/60 cycles has proved the most effective, but improvements are now being considered for a more effective voltage. The use of pulse currents is also being investigated.

Hasui said the average time to death in the Japanese fishery varied from species to species but in general was 4-6 minutes: this time might be reduced with improved technology.

Some members of the Working Group, in commenting on the lack of success with electric harpooning by the Japanese, referred to the apparent success of the method (as applied particularly by the German whalers) prior to World War II. It was pointed out, however, that operational problems had been experienced by Norwegian and British experimenters in the years following the war. Although the method had showed promise, it had been abandoned, possibly because improvements in the explosive harpooning technique had achieved death times nearly equivalent to those claimed for electric harpooning (2-5 minutes) at a lower cost.

The humaneness of killing whales with electric harpoons was questioned. Prof. Rowsell commented that it was critical for the current to pass through the brain initially in order to produce stunning. If it was passed first through muscle and heart it would produce an extension of the muscle that might be extremely painful. According to present legislation in some countries, an electric current passed through the body of an animal first before passing through the brain was considered inhumane. Doubts were expressed that it would be possible to place an electric harpoon accurately enough to consistently meet this criterion.

The possible use of narcotic drugs was also discussed. Prof. Rowsell felt that this was probably not such a useful technique to investigate because of the legal and safety-to-operator problems associated with the use of some of the more powerful drugs. Residues of such drugs in the meat would also pose a problem, and it was pointed out that for most baleen whales (which sink when killed) an attachment device would also be needed.

The Working Group understands that at present the best available method for killing large whales is the explosive harpoon, but believes from a humane point of view that it leaves much to be desired. In the case of the small whales, improvements of or alternatives to the present cold grenade method are desirable.

Whilst some progress has been made in improving methods, there is an urgent need to bring together relevant expertise to indicate where additional improvements can be rapidly made.

Some members felt that humaneness could be defined in a broader fashion (i.e. to include psychological effects on the survivors of a pair or school of whales), but it was felt that at this time discussions should be limited to the more specific problem of improving present whaling methods.

The Working Group then made the following recommendations:-

1. More data are required on the killing technique. In particular the following information should be recorded and collected for an adequate and representative sample of whales killed.
 - a) The times that the first and subsequent harpoons are fired.
 - b) The time of presumed death by whalers according to their stated criteria.

- c) The position of harpoons in the carcass and evaluation of the nature of the injuries they cause, if possible. (e.g. skull damage, heart damage, haemorrhage in abdomen).

Items (a) and (b) must be collected on the catcher boats, by crew members, national inspectors or international observers and Item C on the flensing platform by national inspectors or international observers. All three items should be collected from the same whale if possible, so that times-to-death can be compared with the nature of the injuries caused. In the case of small-type whaling operations, such observations can only be made when a biologist, inspector or international observer travels on the catcher factory ship.

- 2 Similar observations to those made by Prof. Rowsell should be carried out at least at one of each small-type whaling operation where cold grenades are used (as distinguished by the calibre of weaponry used, i.e. 75-90 mm and 50 mm).
- 3 Prof. Rowsell's report should be submitted to a panel of marine mammal pathologists and physiologists for comments. (the names of Dr. Geraci, University of Guelph, Dr. Ridgway, NOSC, San Diego, and Prof. Bullock, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, were mentioned) Particular attention should be directed at the physiological and anatomical information required on sensory nerve pathways and functions of the central nervous system, and on an assessment of cardio pulmonary function in the whale following injury, haemorrhage and loss of blood volume.
- 4 The IWC should seek to sponsor (with the assistance of member nations) a small workshop meeting of invited experts (in such subjects as engineering, electronics, ballistics, munitions, explosives, pharmacology, etc.) in order to consider methods of improving existing killing techniques or to suggest alternative, more humane methods. The panel mentioned in 3 above (or its nominees) should also attend as well as representatives of the Technical Committee.

In advance of any such workshop meeting the Secretary should undertake to circulate certain background information on the subject, and identify major items to all invited participants: this includes the literature review undertaken by Mitchell and Stawski (SC/30/Doc 38) and a list of relevant archival material held by the Secretariat.

5. The use of cold grenades for killing all whale species larger than minke whales should be prohibited. If this recommendation is accepted, it will be necessary to make a schedule change following the recognised procedure according to the Convention.
6. Every attempt should be made to investigate ways and means to shorten time-to-death by improving existing methods or developing alternative methods of killing small whales such as minke whales.
7. In view of the protracted times between striking and death in some primitive whale fisheries, using hand-held equipment, and in particular in view of the number of animals that are wounded but escape, the working group recommends that
 - a) the killing power of the darting gun or first-fixing device should be increased,
 - b) the use of the shoulder gun should be investigated, especially whether it should be used as a killing device after the animal has been fastened, or be banned altogether and an alternative (e.g. hand lances) be used.
8. Although the responsibility of the IWC for small cetaceans may be questioned, the Working Group felt that this matter should be of interest to the Commissioners, and is worthy of further investigation. It was noted that small cetaceans are taken in many areas by methods which may pose problems of humane-ness. For example, shooting may involve protracted times between striking and death and a high proportion of wounded animals escaping. Responsible authorities should take steps to improve the weaponry or otherwise ensure that animals are killed rapidly and that few animals escape wounded.
9. The Working Group draws the attention of the Committee to the taking of lactating female whales at Tonga and Bequia, and reported catches of such females by the Sierra and in some small whale fisheries. Such taking will result in a protracted death for the dependent calf. The Working Group recommends that appropriate action be taken.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP ON NEW OBSERVER SCHEMES

5 - 6 JULY 1979

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All whaling operations by Commission members should be subject to observation under the international observer scheme.
2. The present mechanism of bilateral agreements operate satisfactorily and should be continued.
3. The present observer scheme should be expanded by inviting all member nations to indicate their willingness to negotiate bilateral agreements to provide observers to whaling operations. The Secretariat should maintain a list of countries wishing to provide observers, and whaling nations may select with which of these nations they wish to conclude bilateral agreements. The whaling nation involved would have the right to determine whether such agreements should be in addition to or in replacement of existing bilateral agreements.
4. In the case of North Pacific whaling operations, the countries involved should extend the present coastal agreements or develop new agreements, as appropriate, to provide observers at minke whale operations by Japan and all whaling operations by the Republic of Korea. Such agreements should provide for the possibility of having observers on board catcher vessels, if practicable.
5. In the case of North Atlantic minke whale operations, Norway, Iceland and Canada should extend their present agreement to provide observation of such operations. The possibility of having observers on board vessels should be explored.
6. In the case of minke and humpback whaling operations by Denmark, agreements should be developed to provide suitable Inuit observers. Denmark, Canada and the US should consider drawing up agreements as appropriate to provide for observation of these whaling operations.
7. The Technical Committee should consult with Brazil, Chile, Spain and Peru and develop a recommendation to ensure that their whaling operations will be subject to observation under the international observer scheme.
8. It is recommended that all countries involved in observer scheme agreements consider the possibility of combining the duty of IWC observers with such other functions as the countries concerned may agree with respect to scientific research and collection of information relating to humane killing. Such additional assignments could be carried out through existing or separate agreements, as appropriate. In all cases, such agreements should recognise that the duty of international observers is to report on compliance of the whaling operation with the provisions of the Schedule.